

Appln No. 10/693,869
Amdt. Dated July 26, 2005
Response to Office Action of June 24, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

AMENDMENT

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of June 24, 2005 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks directed thereto.

Claims 1-9 are currently pending in the present application. In the Amendment:
independent claims 1 and 8 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 9;
claim 9 is cancelled; and
pending claims 2-7 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to, nor new issues to the prosecution of, the present application.

REMARKS

Allowable Subject Matter

The applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of pending claims 2-7 and 9, under the conditions stated in the office action.

Claim Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendment to independent claims 1 and 8 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 9 overcomes the Examiner's rejections of claims 1 and 8 under obvious-type double patenting over claims 1-6 of USP 6,899,420 in view of previously cited Titterington, of claim 1 under 35 USC 103(a) over Titterington in view of newly cited Hilton (USP 5,691,753), and of claim 8 under 35 USC 103(a) over Titterington and Hilton in view of previously cited Eguchi, for at least the reasons outlined by the Examiner in the "Allowable Subject Matter" section of the office action.

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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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